

1997 Wind Related Fatalities

Wind related fatalities in 1997 totaled 75, compared to 54 in 1996, a 28% increase. Of the 75 deaths, nearly half (37) were a result of thunderstorm winds and half (38) from high wind events. (Thunderstorm winds are a result of a convectively produced storm versus high winds, which are caused by a deep surface low pressure system with a tight isobaric pressure gradient or a strong, cold frontal passage.) Many of the deaths occurred when a wind gust toppled a tree onto a person, automobile or building. The states of New York and Washington suffered the highest fatalities with 13 each. Males accounted for 57% of the wind related fatalities. The 10- to 60-year-old age group was most susceptible to wind related deaths.

1997 HIGH WIND AND THUNDERSTORM WIND FATALITIES BY STATE AND LOCATION

<u>STATE</u>	<u>BO</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>LS</u>	<u>MH</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>OU</u>	<u>PH</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>VE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
CA	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	4
CO	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
CT	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
FL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
IA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
KY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
LA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
MA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
MI	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
MN	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
MS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
NC	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
NJ	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	6
NY	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	7	13
OH	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
OR	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
PA	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
TN	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
TX	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
UT	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
VA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
WA	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	13
WI	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	14	2	1	4	19	10	0	0	25	75
PERCENT	19	3	1	5	25	13	0	0	33	99*

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

1997 HIGH WIND AND THUNDERSTORM WIND FATALITIES BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	3	2	0	5	7
10 TO 19	6	5	0	11	15
20 TO 29	4	3	0	7	9
30 TO 39	3	8	0	11	15
40 TO 49	4	11	0	15	20
50 TO 59	3	6	0	9	12
60 TO 69	1	3	0	4	5
70 TO 79	0	3	0	3	4
80 TO 89	1	1	0	2	3
90 TO --	0	0	0	0	0
UNKNOWN	1	1	6	8	11
TOTALS	26	43	6	75	101*
PERCENT	35	57	8	100	

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

LEGEND

BO - Boat
CA - Camping
LS - Long-Span Roof
MH - Mobile Home
OT - Other/Unknown
OU - Outside Open
PH - Permanent Home
SC - School
VE - Vehicle

1997 Wind Related Fatalities (Continued)

1997 HIGH WIND AND THUNDERSTORM WIND FATALITIES BY STATE

<u>STATE</u>	<u>TSTM WIND</u>	<u>HIGH WIND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AR	0	1	1
CA	0	4	4
CO	3	0	3
CT	1	0	1
FL	0	1	1
IA	1	0	1
KY	2	0	2
LA	1	1	2
MA	1	0	1
MD	1	0	1
MI	5	0	5
MN	0	1	1
MS	1	0	1
NC	1	1	2
NJ	5	1	6
NY	4	9	13
OH	3	0	3
OR	0	1	1
PA	1	2	3
TN	1	0	1
TX	2	0	2
UT	2	0	2
VA	0	1	1
WA	0	13	13
WI	1	2	3
WV	1	0	1
TOTAL	37	38	75
PERCENT	49	51	100

1997 HIGH WIND AND THUNDERSTORM WIND FATALITIES BY GENDER

	<u>TSTM WIND</u>	<u>HIGH WIND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
FEMALE	13	13	26	35
MALE	23	20	43	57
UNKNOWN	1	5	6	8
TOTALS	37	38	75	100
PERCENT	49	51	100	